

Conflicting signals from Czechoslovakia

PRAGUE (AP) — Czechoslovakia is making conflicting withdrawal of all 75,000 Soviet troops station in its territory by the end of the year. The negotiations with Soviet officials have opened Monday, sources said. The Czechoslovak side would like a commitment from the Soviets that at least half their troops will leave Czechoslovakia by mid-June, the sources said, to coincide with independence. "The idea is to have them [Soviets] make a political commitment during these talks that all the troops will leave by the end of the year," a source said. Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel was invited to Moscow at the beginning of February to discuss Prague's demands for a speedy withdrawal of Soviet troops. Foreign Ministry spokesman Lubos Dubrovsky said today the level of full withdrawal of the estimated 75,000 Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia by the end of the year. "I suggest that the Soviet troops should withdraw from Czechoslovakia by the end of 1990," Dubrovsky said last week. Deputy Foreign Minister Tomas Vaculik heads the Czechoslovak delegation to the talks, and his counterpart Petr Abrahm is leading the Soviet side.

Volume 15 Number 4251

AMMAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1990, JUMADA AL THANI 19, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Peace Foundation

الجordan times من المجلة العربية للدراسات والبحوث

Egypt seeks to revive effort

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Emad Abd Al Meguid will visit Washington this week to discuss Middle East peace moves, officials said Monday.

The minister would deliver a message from President Hosni Mubarak on Cairo's efforts to bring Israel and Palestinians together in their first-ever dialogue, the officials said.

A U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has urged the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers to meet him for preparatory talks in Washington, but it was not clear if Abd Al Meguid would meet his Israeli counterpart, Moshe Arens.

The unexpected trip by Abd Al Meguid comes after two visits to Cairo in a week by Yasir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday that President Hosni Mubarak, who has been trying to start a dialogue between the PLO and Israel, is sending Osama Al Baz, director of the president's political office, with Abd Al Meguid.

The spokesman said they and other senior officials "are going to try and push forward Middle East peace efforts" with Baker.

The trip is expected to last for several days, said the spokesman, who asked not to be identified by name under ministry regulations.

In a dispatch from Washington,

the government's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported that the Egyptians would discuss the delay in convening Baker's proposed January meeting in Washington with Abd Al Meguid and Arens.

Information Minister Saad Al Sherif told reporters after Mubark met with senior ministers that Abd Al Meguid's talks would focus on continuing contacts about the Palestine issue with the United States and other concerned parties.

The information minister said Mubark was sending with Abd Al Meguid a letter to Baker about "developments of the Palestinian issue" and ongoing contacts about it.

Mubark proposed last year that Israeli and Palestinian officials meet in Cairo as a step towards a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem, to prepare for the dialogue. Baker invited the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers to a meeting that had been expected to occur in Washington this month.

But the meeting has been delayed because both Israel and the PLO are demanding strict assurances that so far are unacceptable to the other.

Israel wants a firm guarantee that the Palestinian side to the Cairo dialogue will have no connection with the PLO and that the organization will be connected to the peace process in no way.

ANBOR DAY: His Majesty King Hussein Monday plants a sapling at Al Jizah south of Amman on the occasion of Arbor Day (see page 3).

Shamir: Occupied lands for immigrants

Arab League voices 'concern' over Soviet influx to Palestine

TUNIS (Agencies) — An Arab League meeting on Palestinian nothing made in exile opened in Tunis Monday with a warning that Israel was planning to settle hundreds of thousands of East European Jews in the occupied territories.

Mohammad Al Farra, the Arab League's assistant secretary general for Palestinian affairs, told the meeting of Arab officials that Israel had set aside hundreds of millions of dollars for the new immigrants, mostly from the Soviet Union.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Sunday that Israel had to hang on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for the newcomers. Israeli officials say they expect at least 300,000 Soviet Jews to move to Israel over the next three years.

Palestinians are worried that many will come to the occupied territories and reinforce the Israeli settler presence.

Farra said Arab states must respond with massive political and material support for the intifada which broke out in the West Bank and Gaza in December 1987.

Iraq says Turkey has given assurances over Euphrates

ANKARA (Agencies) — Iraq's oil minister Monday said Turkey has reaffirmed its assurances to share the waters of the Euphrates River, a matter which has recently acquired the potential to inflame tensions in the mid region.

The minister, Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi, said Turkey's project to harness the waters would be to the benefit of neighbouring countries as well.

Chalabi arrived Sunday, a day after Turkey diverted much of the Euphrates past its reservoir of giant Ataturk Dam. He delivered a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to Turkish President Turgut Ozal.

Chalabi said that he had "a very positive, an excellent talk" with Ozal. But neither side would comment on Turkey's answer to an Iraqi request that the water cut-off period be reduced from a month to two weeks.

Turks have maintained that one month is the minimum time required for filling the reservoir of the \$4-billion project, the centrepiece of the massive southeast Anatolia project of 15 dams and 18 hydroelectric plants to be built on the Tigris, Euphrates and

"For a large immigration we need the land of Israel, a large and strong Israel," Shamir said. "We will need a lot of place to absorb everybody."

Shamir said the sudden influx of Soviet Jews proved time was on Israel's side and would change the face of the Jewish state, making it "bigger, better and stronger."

"The Arabs around us are embarrassed. They are in a mood of defeat, stricken with fear," the 74-year-old premier told members of his right-wing Likud party.

"They see the success of Zionism and they have no answer for it. They have no cure. We have an answer and of course it is not a Palestinian state. For the big immigration, we must have the land of Israel and we have to fight for it, struggle for it."

Shamir's statements launched his campaign to defeat three hardline Likud ministers challenging him for re-tiring. He was set to be re-tired before dawn Monday, causing no injuries or damage, the army said.

Several Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets fired from South Lebanon landed in northern Israel before dawn Monday, causing no injuries or damage, the army said.

The army said the rockets landed in the Galilee "peninsula" that protrudes into Lebanon. No further details were released by the army.

The last reported rocket attack from Lebanon was Nov. 9.

Israel Radio said the rockets were fired from north of Israel's self-declared "security zone," four-to-20-kilometre deep strip in southern Lebanon designed as a buffer against resistance attacks.

The zone is patrolled jointly by Israeli troops and some 3,000 militiamen from the South Lebanon Army (SLA), which is trained and financed by Israel.

Israel carved out the zone in 1985 when it withdrew the bulk of its troops from Lebanon following the 1982 invasion and a three-year occupation of part of the country.

Israel has blamed Palestinian guerrillas and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah for past rocket attacks.

In the last month, a number of Katyushas have fallen short of Israeli territory and landed in "security zone," military sources said.

In northern Israel, scores of angry farmers used tyres and rocks to close a main road near the Lebanon border, Israel Radio reported.

Pakdemirli said during his meeting with Chalabi, attended by reporters: "I don't think we have problems but always there are points to be discussed among friends, among brotherly countries."

There is no clearly binding rule in international law on rivers running through several countries except for a principle of good will and optimism and just sharing, said Turgut Ozal's high-level

Israeli soldier stabbed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Unidentified attackers stabbed a woman Israeli soldier inside Jerusalem's Old City Monday, police said.

A witness said the woman was stabbed six times in the back but not seriously wounded. Police rounded up several dozen Palestinians near the scene in the Arab sector of the city.

Knife-wielding Palestinians attacked Israelis in Jerusalem several times last year. In February, Palestinians fatally stabbed an off-duty soldier outside the old city.

In May, a Muslim fundamentalist knifed to death two Israelis in central West Jerusalem, sparking attempts by angry Jews to lynch passing Arabs.

Katyusha attack

Several Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets fired from South Lebanon landed in northern Israel before dawn Monday, causing no injuries or damage, the army said.

The army said the rockets landed in the Galilee "peninsula" that protrudes into Lebanon. No further details were released by the army.

The last reported rocket attack from Lebanon was Nov. 9.

Israel Radio said the rockets were fired from north of Israel's self-declared "security zone," four-to-20-kilometre deep strip in southern Lebanon designed as a buffer against resistance attacks.

The zone is patrolled jointly by Israeli troops and some 3,000 militiamen from the South Lebanon Army (SLA), which is trained and financed by Israel.

Israel carved out the zone in 1985 when it withdrew the bulk of its troops from Lebanon following the 1982 invasion and a three-year occupation of part of the country.

Israel has blamed Palestinian guerrillas and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah for past rocket attacks.

In the last month, a number of Katyushas have fallen short of Israeli territory and landed in "security zone," military sources said.

In northern Israel, scores of angry farmers used tyres and rocks to close a main road near the Lebanon border, Israel Radio reported.

Pakdemirli said during his meeting with Chalabi, attended by reporters: "I don't think we have problems but always there are points to be discussed among friends, among brotherly countries."

There is no clearly binding rule in international law on rivers running through several countries except for a principle of good will and optimism and just sharing, said Turgut Ozal's high-level

Emergency in Karabakh; army may intervene

Azeris, Armenians fight pitched battles

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Azerbaijanis and Armenians with machine guns battled each other Monday as the Soviet Union's bloodiest ethnic conflict worsened, and official media said at least 34 people had died in the latest round of unrest.

The Soviet government declared a state of emergency in the Nagorno-Karabakh region and nearby areas as the ethnic fighting worsened.

An official said the Soviet army might be dispatched.

Soviet Prime Minister Nikita Ryzhkov said that the bloody conflict would have to be resolved by force to prevent civil war.

He was speaking to Norwegian state radio as thousands of militants massed in the two southern Soviet republics, goaded by the bloodiest violence in the region since the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict erupted two years ago.

Soviet Television said 34 people had been killed in two days of anti-Armenian riots in the Azerbaijani capital, Baku, and the situation in some districts was completely out of control.

"The conflict seems to be hard to solve but the authorities won't allow that to become a civil war between the Azerbaijanis and the Armenians," Ryzhkov said.

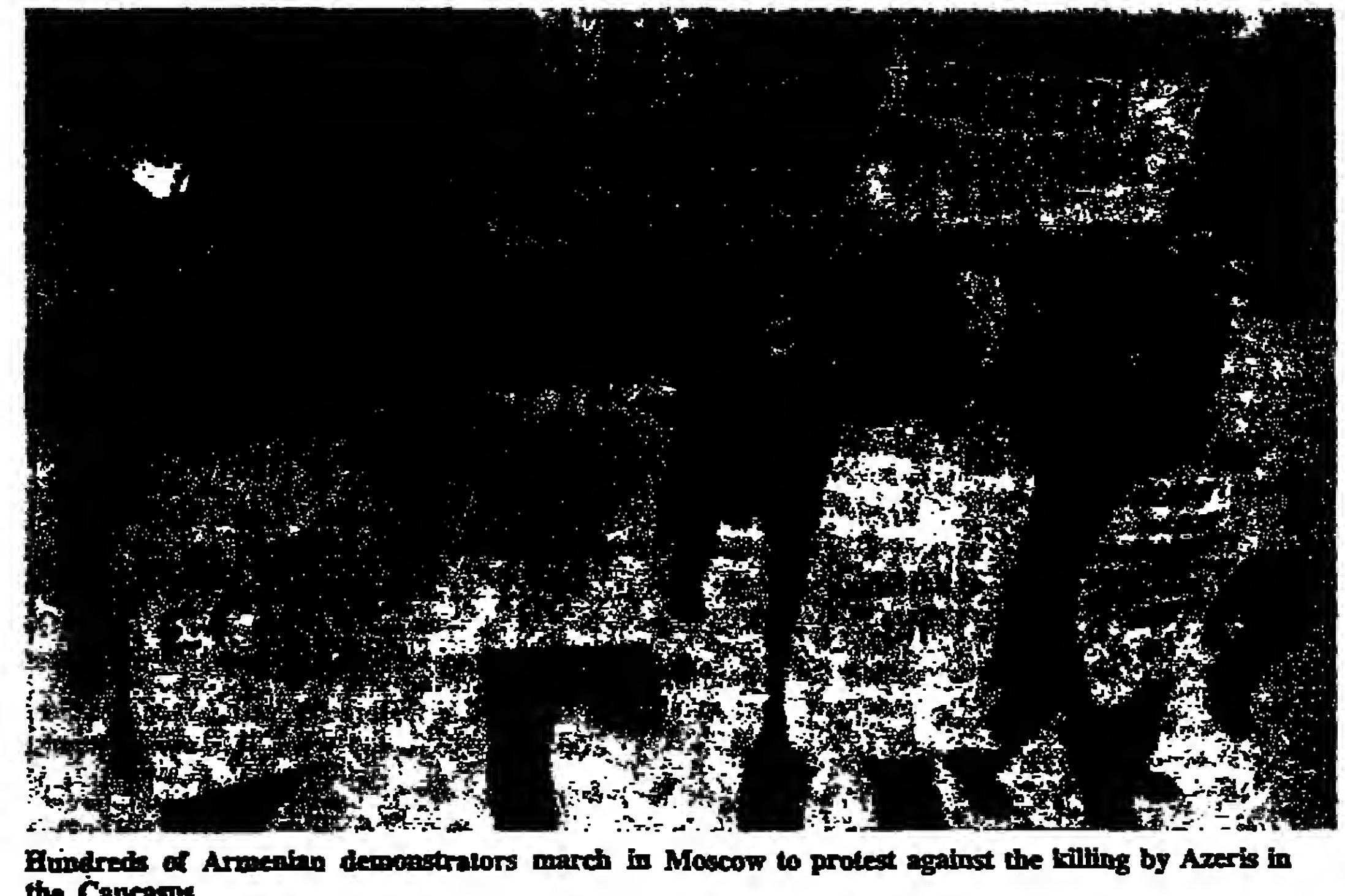
"The conflict... must be solved with the help of military power."

He said the politburo could decide shortly to order a form of military rule and a curfew in the region.

The riots broke out Saturday as Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev returned to Moscow from Lithuania, another hotbed of unrest where he attempted to curb moves towards secession.

An Azerbaijani Communist Party official told Reuters by telephone, that thousands of Azerbaijanis with hunting rifles and stolen army weapons, were forming mobile detachments.

The television said police and



Hundreds of Armenian demonstrators march in Moscow to protest against the killing of Azeris in the Caucasus

Interior Ministry troops flown into Baku Sunday were taking measures "to protect Armenians on Azerbaijani territory."

It said 600 Armenians had been evacuated from Baku by boat across the Caspian Sea to Krasnodar in the Central Asian Republic.

"The conflict... must be solved with the help of military power."

He said the politburo could decide shortly to order a form of military rule and a curfew in the region.

The Kremlin had already sent troops reinforcements to Azerbaijan to try to halt the worst fighting between the two ethnic groups since their long-simmering feud in the caucasus boiled over nearly two years ago.

An Armenian official said authorities had lost control in some parts of the southern republic, where most of the victims were Armenians attacked by mobs of Azerbaijanis in Baku. Many Armenians were reported fleeing.

The official Soviet news agency TASS said some Azerbaijanis were armed with machine guns, and that in one part of the republic, Communists and government officials were taken hostage.

State-run television said 300 Armenians and Azerbaijanis fought in the Shavumyan region of Azerbaijan, where Armenians and Azerbaijanis villages coexist. It quoted a soldier as saying Armenians fought back with hunting rifles and Kalashnikov submachine guns when a group of Azerbaijanis tried to set fire to an Armenian farm.

Attacks on the homes of Armenians living in Azerbaijan continued, with more killings and six more bodies found, the TV news programme Vremya said Monday night. Four of the dead were Armenians, and the others were of unidentified nationality, it said.

In Lithuania, independent-minded Communist Party chief Algirdas Brazauskas was elected president of the Baltic republic at a session of parliament.

It appeared to be a solid vote of confidence in Brazauskas who in the past month has overseen the breakaway of the Lithuanian Communist Party from Moscow.

In an acceptance speech, he said he would concentrate on achieving full economic independence.

Arab mediators meet on Lebanon

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Arab mediators seeking an end to Lebanon's civil war met Monday to discuss ways to save their seven-month peace effort from collapse.

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Morocco discussed a report on progress since an Arab peace plan was accepted by Lebanese members of parliament in October, an Algerian official said.

Full implementation of the plan has been blocked by General Michel Aoun who wants guarantees that Syria will withdraw its 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

The Algerian official said the ministers were to report to their heads of state, who were mandated to undertake the peace bid by an Arab summit last May. The heads of state will decide the next move, he said.

The official Algerian news agency APS said the tripartite committee was giving the peace plan worked out in the Saudi Arabian city of Taif a last chance.

"The committee sees a last chance for the Lebanese to profit from the Taif accord and reaffirm the credibility of legitimate government action in Lebanon and the importance of Arab financial and economic aid," the agency said.

After a short meeting joined by Arab League troubleshooter Lakhdar Brahimi the ministers were received by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

Ibrahim held talks with Lebanese President Elias Hrawi, Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss and Speaker Hussein Husseini on Sunday.

The Taif pact led to a shaky ceasefire and elections to fill the vacant post of president but Rene Muawad was assassinated 17 days after his election.

His successor, Hrawi, has been unable to gain control of the Christian enclave where Aoun controls about half the Lebanese army.

Syria said Monday that Lebanon was heading towards peace despite attempts by Aoun to hinder the process.

The official Syria Times said "egregious" local Arab and international support for Hrawi's government would help bring about the downfall of Aoun.

"It can be said now that Lebanon today is heading towards peace, security and stability despite all attempts to hinder the sincere and good efforts by all parties concerned," the English-language paper said.

It said Hrawi should seek re-election to rebuild the armed forces. The army is now split largely on sectarian lines.

The protesters have prevented embassy staff from entering the building and control the switchboard.

They say they have received phone calls of support from Lebanese living in Britain and Ireland.

Several hundred demonstrators turned out Sunday to block protesters who have occupied Lebanon's embassy to France since last week in support of Aoun.

Some of the demonstrators marched peacefully through the chancery, occupied since Thursday by dozens of people protesting the government's plans to transfer diplomats supporting Aoun in the United States and Europe.

Hoss meanwhile threatened to ask the French police to expel the protesters by force if Ambassador Fouad Turk cannot negotiate their departure over the next few days.

The protesters have prevented embassy staff from entering the building and control the switchboard.

They say they have received phone calls of support from Lebanese living in Britain and Ireland.

The secret police are currently being disbanded.

Several hundred demonstrators turned out Sunday to block protesters who have occupied Lebanon's embassy to France since last week in support of Aoun.

<p

Soviet diplomat explains official stand on Israel

Ties 'improving'; No initiative to revoke 'Zionism-is-racism' resolution; Syria going with the tide

NEW YORK (R) — A Soviet diplomat addressed a congregation of Jews at a temple in New York City Sunday, marking the first time that a representative of the Soviet Union has appeared in an official capacity at an American Jewish synagogue.

Veteran diplomat Oleg Derkowsky, a political counsellor at the Soviet embassy in Washington, with responsibility for Near and Middle East affairs, said his invitation to visit Temple Emanuel, the world's largest reform Jewish congregation, on the Russian Orthodox New Year's Day, was "a symbol of new times, of changes for the better."

In response to questions from a friendly audience, Derkowsky said the Soviet Union had "a strong desire to reestablish relations with Israel but is discussing how best to do this from a practical point of view."

Derkowsky said relations between the Soviet Union and Israel were "improving." Moscow recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv to protest against Israel's occupation of Arab territories after the June 1967 war.

Derkowsky said that in 1990 "a different atmosphere" prevails than in 1967 and that "dialogue gives us the opportunity to understand each other better."

The continued occupation of some of those territories is the main obstacle preventing the Soviet Union and Israel from resuming full diplomatic relations, Derkowsky said. He nonetheless observed that, through the consular missions Israel has in Moscow and the Soviet Union has in Tel Aviv, the Soviet Union's relations with Israel "are better than some countries with whom we have full diplomatic relations."

Asked whether the Soviet Union would support the repeal of the 1975 United Nations resolution equating Zionism with racism, Derkowsky said the Soviet Union believes to revive the debate over the issue would be counterproductive.

Zionism if the movement formerly for reestablishing, now for supporting, the Jewish state.

"If someone were to suggest a 'Zionism is racism' resolution today, the Soviet Union would not support it," Derkowsky said. "But it does not depend on us entirely. Our present view is that bygones must be bygones."

Noting that no U.N. resolution has ever been repealed, Derkowsky said, "if we start such a process, it might be detrimental to the new atmosphere and might

give a new forum to those who support (the resolution as it stands)."

Derkovsky, whose Middle East diplomatic postings began in 1961 in Iraq and ended in 1981 after a five-year stint in Egypt, said a campaign to repeal the "Zionism is racism" resolution would result "in many Arab countries immersing themselves in a discussion that would be futile instead of working to resolve conflicts."

Derkovsky called the predicament of Lebanon one of the world's most "mind-boggling" conflicts. "They are on a suicidal course and that is what I tell the Lebanese representatives who come to see me in Washington."

Derkovsky said Syria had reestablished relations with Egypt because the Syrians "are clever enough not to go against the tide."

Derkovsky said he hoped new freedoms in the Soviet Union would not give rise to "right-wing anti-Semitism." He said anti-Semitism as a phenomenon in the Soviet Union "had receded to a great extent."

Derkovsky and reform Jewish leaders said the Soviet envoy's appearance was the first of its kind in the United States.

Weizman wrong

Israeli foreign ministry sources said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

The sources said the Israeli mission had since clarified that no such promise was given to Weizman and the only upgrading of which he was notified was the decision to raise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Moscow to the status of an embassy.

Mission chief Aryeh Levine reported that Shevardnadze had only said he was thinking of putting some order into relations with Israel in the near future and correcting the status of the consular mission in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, both of the right-wing Likud Party, rebuked the dovish Weizman of the Labour Party at a

meeting of the Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legislation.

Weizman made the remark after talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, from which the head of Israel's consular mission in Moscow was excluded. It has not been confirmed by the Soviet government or media.

Petra, Radio, TV to get independent status

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin Monday opened a three-day round-table conference for the Arab news agencies federation and the news media of the Federal Republic of Germany, and announced that the government was in the process of promoting the Jordan News Agency, Petra, and the radio and television corporation in a bid to bolster their media roles.

"We are seeking to restructure the national news agency with the purpose of granting it further flexibility in covering events occurring in various parts of the Kingdom and to enable it to compete with pan-Arab and international developments," Izzeddin said in his opening address to the meeting.

Petra will be granted administrative and financial independence and will receive all possible financial support from the government to enable it to carry out its media roles.

"We are seeking to restructure the national news agency with the purpose of granting it further

flexibility in covering events occurring in various parts of the Kingdom and to enable it to compete with pan-Arab and international developments," Izzeddin said in his opening address to the meeting.

The government has now granted the press total freedom of expression and writing and all intellectuals and writers have the right to voice the Jordanian people's aspirations and reflect their demands and their views, Izzeddin said.

He said the new policy was adopted within the new era of democracy and parliamentary rule in Jordan.

The minister voiced hope that the round-table conference would contribute towards deepening the North and South dialogue and increase the West German media coverage of developments in the Arab World.

78 centres in Amman to sell imported meat

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Supply announced Monday that it had assigned 78 centres within the Amman region to sell imported frozen meat and that its warehouses had sufficient quantities for the public's needs.

A ministry official said the number of these centres had been increased because the ministry found that Jordanians were buying frozen meat more than at any time in the past and in view of the shortage of meat supplies from Eastern Europe.

Teams from the Ministry of Supply have toured the centres and ensured that they were abiding by the ministry's regulations and conditions and selling it at prices set by the ministry, the official said. He also announced that a consignment of 1,250 tonnes of frozen meat would soon arrive at Aqaba to meet the

shortages in the local market.

Earlier this month, Ministry of Supply officials were quoted in the local press as saying that no more meat was being imported from Romania which recently witnessed a revolution but consignments of imported fresh meat will be arriving here from Turkey and Bulgaria by the middle of March. At the same time, the ministry was now distributing some 40 tonnes of imported fresh meat to various distribution centres and allowed centres that were originally assigned to sell only imported meat to also sell local meat so as to meet the shortage.

Jordan has almost three million heads of sheep but it is not sufficient to cover the country's needs, according to Radi Ibrahim, the ministry's secretary general.

JVA prepares final

AI Wahdeh designs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), which is in charge of building the Al Wahdeh Dam on the Yarmouk River near the common border with Syria, has begun preparing the final designs and tender documents for the construction of the dam, a project expected to take four years to complete, according to a report in the local press Monday.

The report quoted JVA Secretary-General Mohammad Bani Hani as saying that Amman would play host to a meeting in the next few months to discuss the question of financing the \$350 million project.

Bani Hani said that a 920-metre-long diversion tunnel at the dam site had been completed.

by a consortium of Jordanian, Syrian and Indian companies at the cost of JD 2.5 million.

Bani Hani visited Damascus last October to discuss questions pertaining to the dam project and cooperation between Syria and Jordan in carrying out joint agricultural projects.

Bani Hani said that the tunnel was needed to divert water from the Yarmouk River until the dam project was completed.

According to Bani Hani, the Jordanian government was maintaining contacts with financial institutions for ensuring loans to help construct the dam which would provide sufficient water for Jordan's agricultural and domestic use and electricity benefiting Jordan and Syria.

Tunis meeting reviews problems of refugees

TUNIS (Agencies) — Jordan and other Arab countries in the region hosting Palestinian refugees Monday opened a six-day meeting here to discuss developments in the Palestine problem, services to the refugees and Israel's practices in the occupied territories.

A spokesman for the meeting said that Israel's continued threats to the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, the general conditions of the Arab people in the light of the uprising and Jewish immigration were on top of the agenda.

He said that services offered to the Palestinian refugees in the Arab World by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), Israel's plans to link the Mediterranean Sea with the Dead Sea and its economic and security dangers on the Arab World as well as issues pertaining to education for the Palestinian

children will also be discussed.

Among the speakers at the opening session was Dr. Ahmad Qassem, director of the Department of Palestinian Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who called on the conference to give proper attention to the plight of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule.

The 10-day meeting in Tunis

brings together the civil servants

responsible for Palestinians living in exile in Arab countries.

Apart from Jewish immigration, it will discuss contributions to the budget of UNRWA, the U.N. agency which looks after Palestinian refugees.

Washington has cut its contribution from \$67 million in 1988 to \$61 million in 1989 and \$50 million this year, citing the need to resettle refugees elsewhere.

Arab Fund to finance study on grid link

KUWAIT (J.T.) — Plans by Jordan and four other Middle Eastern countries to link their national power grids have received a boost from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), which has agreed to help finance a study on the project.

A statement by the Kuwait-based fund said that in cooperation with the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank, the fund will finance the study aiming to connect the grids of Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

The statement, however, did not give a timetable nor say how much the loan to be offered for the project was worth.

Over the past two years Jordan and the four Middle Eastern

states have been conducting meetings, and Amman has been chosen to host the headquarters of a technical committee preparing for the project.

Both Jordan and Egypt are already involved in a grid linkage project and the Arab fund has approved of loans to the two countries. The project entails laying an 11-kilometre submarine cable line between Sinai and Aqaba and establishing transformer stations and other installations along the route.

The two sides are currently preparing the final documents for the project on which work could start in the coming year. Jordan's grid was connected with that of Syria in 1981 with a 230-kilovolt line.

Greening Jordan campaign by year 2000 is launched

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tree-planting ceremonies were held in different parts of Jordan Monday to mark Arbor Day and the Ministry of Agriculture announced that millions of forest and fruit trees could be planted this year under the slogan of "greening the Kingdom by the year 2000."

The main celebration was held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein at Jizah south of Amman and near the Queen Alia International Airport on the highway leading to Aqaba.

The King planted a tree at the site, which was prepared for the occasion by the Ministry of Agriculture. He urged all Jordanians to exert more efforts to green Jordan.

"Indeed, it should be the responsibility of all Jordanian citizens to plant trees in contribution towards the attainment of the goal of greening Jordan and to help develop the land which is precious for all of us," the King said in a statement to reporters at the ceremony in which senior government officials, guests and members of the public took part.

"Attention should not be centred only on the planting of a single tree on Arbor Day and tree-planting programmes should be maintained at various regions," the King said. "It is not

difficult to fulfil the goal of making Jordan green by the year 2000 and one has to struggle against all climatic conditions to achieve that goal."

The King, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, speakers of the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament, deputies, Cabinet members, civil and military officials and members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic missions and members of the public planted trees along the edges of the desert on 30 kilometres, 10 in the Amman region and 20 in the south during 1990.

For the first time, different departments and organisations in Jordan pooled their resources and joined hands in helping to carry out this vital project which aims to stop soil erosion and make Jordan green, Abu Arrabi said.

He said that formations of the Jordanian Armed Forces, school students and other organisations had begun planting trees on an area of 10,000 dunums in Jordan since the beginning of 1990. The trees are being planted in dry parallel rows along each side of the route, according to ministry officials.

The highway was selected as the focus for this year's celebrations because it forms a link between Jordan and the Arab countries in the south, the east and north, and because it connects the capital with the port city, the only outlet for Jordan.

He said the ministry was turning its attention to the slopes of hills overlooking the Jordan Valley.

He estimated the areas grown with fruit trees at 40,000 dunums annually.

Referring to the this year's focus on the desert highway, he said that this project was aimed at

and because the route is used by thousands of Muslims performing the annual pilgrimage season in Mecca, according to Ghaleb Abu Arrabi, director of the Ministry of Agriculture's Department of Afforestation and Soil Conservation.

Abu Arrabi said the ministry started planting trees along the highway in 1988 within the Tafileh, Maan and Karak regions and intends to plant trees along 30 kilometres, 10 in the Amman region and 20 in the south during 1990.

For the first time, different departments and organisations in Jordan pooled their resources and joined hands in helping to carry out this vital project which aims to stop soil erosion and make Jordan green, Abu Arrabi said.

He said that formations of the Jordanian Armed Forces, school students and other organisations had begun planting trees on an area of 10,000 dunums in Jordan since the beginning of 1990. The trees are being planted in dry parallel rows along each side of the route, according to ministry officials.

The highway was selected as the focus for this year's celebrations because it forms a link between Jordan and the Arab countries in the south, the east and north, and because it connects the capital with the port city, the only outlet for Jordan.

He estimated the areas grown with fruit trees at 40,000 dunums annually.

Referring to the this year's focus on the desert highway, he said that this project was aimed at



His Majesty King Hussein Monday participates in Arbor Day ceremonies. (Petra)

stemming the encroachment of desert over arable land, conserving soil and greening Jordan.

In 1981 only 5,000 dunums of land were covered with trees, rising to 50,000 dunums by the end of 1989, Abu Arrabi pointed out.

To protect the trees, the ministry has employed 250 guards whose task is to monitor the situation around the planted areas to prevent any damage to

The Ministry of Education said that at least 200,000 male and female students were to be involved in tree planting operations as a contribution to the national effort of greening Jordan.

The Jordanian Armed Forces Monday held a separate tree planting celebration marking Arbor Day. Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and senior army officers planted fruit and forest trees at a site in Amman.

Amad appointed director-general

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of the Jordan Press Foundation Company Limited (JPFC), the publishers of Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, Monday appointed Mohammad Al Amad as director-general of the foundation.

Economic crunch should not deter businesswomen

By Marjan M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian businesswomen should not be reluctant to take courageous steps to enter the industrial arena even in times of economic hardship when all businesses and entrepreneurs face difficulties, an expert told a group of Jordanian businesswomen Sunday evening.

According to Hina Shah, from the International Centre for Entrepreneurship for Career Development in India, women in the developing world and possibly everywhere have to work harder to establish and maintain businesses and industries.

Addressing members of the Amman Business and Professional Women's Club (ABPWC), Shah said that "on

the whole women entrepreneurs are not different from men. While there are some added social obstacles the rules of the game are the same."

Shah, who has been a guest of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) to do a survey after studying the situation of small businesses run by Jordanian women for the past month, said that she was impressed by what she saw in Jordan.

"Jordan is at the beginning of the road, of course, and should therefore not compare itself to the countries that started years ago. Considering the circumstances, (Jordanian) women entrepreneurs have made a good start," Shah said.

She told the audience about small businesses run by women in India. Twelve years ago, when "entrepreneurship

among women was born in India, women there, like here, needed help to learn developmental means and be trained in industries which were in demand rather than those which may have seemed more traditional and comfortable to work in. Women in India, like women in Jordan, were afraid to venture into the unknown. But that fear is slowly being overcome by Indian women and with the right guidance women here will overcome it also," Shah said.

The Indian expert's comments came in direct correlation to a project started by the ABPWC called "Small Business Counselling project."

Coordinator of the project Nisrin Tonkan told the audience that her initial aim was to "listen to the needs of women entrepreneurs in Jordan."

"We want to cater to your needs and know what your problems are, be they managerial, financial or technical," she told the audience.

Shah said she was visiting Jordan to see "what is happening" in the Kingdom and give advice. I have been responsible for the training and counselling of over 2,000 women entrepreneurs in India over the last 12 years. Some women preferred to market traditional hand-made creations, which are largely embroidered. These products are beautiful and they do sell well as long as the market is not flooded with them. Once many Indian women realised that the Indian markets were overflowing with "hand made this or that," they became courageous and began

all sorts of things, including laundry mats and pencil factories."

Shah said that certain factors were essential if any enterprise were to be successful. "First there is the realisation of opportunities, consolidation of resources, the creation of the venture and last but not least its growth and survival. The initiative, information seeking, risk taking, persistence, systematic planning and self-confidence are steps that the entrepreneur has to take before and throughout her venture," Shah said.

She told the audience that officials at Jordanian financial institutions that she visited told her that potential female entrepreneurs "hardly ever brought the right feasibility studies when seeking financial assistance." Subsequently

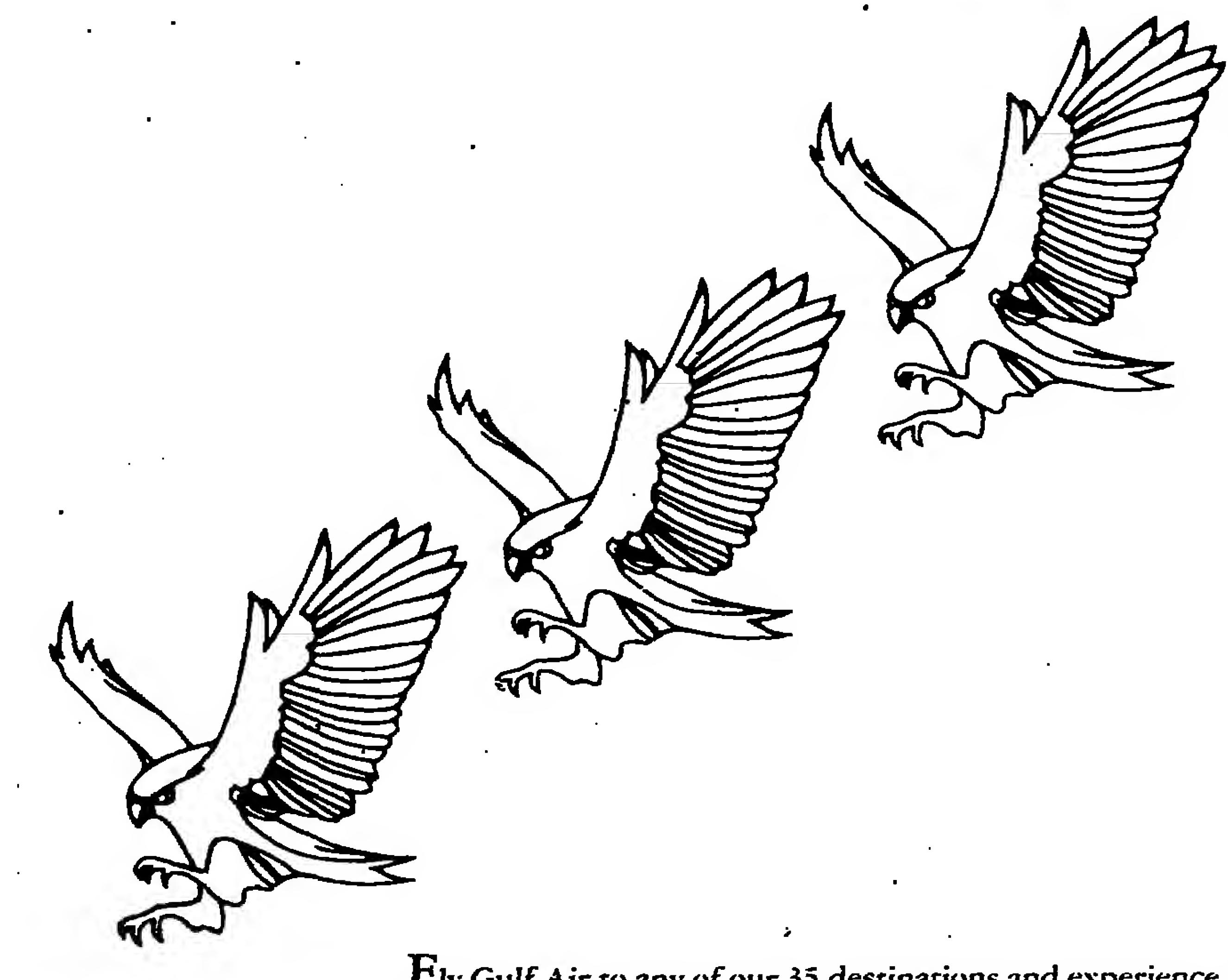
businesswomen short of cash to fund projects were rarely given loans from the financial institutions.

Women "must learn to stop fearing the unknown and start learning what they don't know to overcome that fear," Shah said. "If a financial institution needs a guarantor then bring one. Don't think you won't need the moral support of your families because you will and you might as well accept it and don't fight to be 'independent' of anyone or anything," Shah said.

She pointed it out that a recent survey in India had shown that out of a sample of 3,000 entrepreneurs (men and women) were divided equally 72 per cent of the women and 62 per cent of the men had been "successful."

ABU DHABI · AL-FUJAIRAH · AMMAN · ATHENS · BAGHDAD · BAHRAIN · BANGKOK · BOMBAY · CAIRO · COLOMBO · DAMASCUS · DAKAR · DHAHRAN · DHAHRAN · DUBAI · FRANKFURT · HONG KONG · ISTANBUL · JEDDAH · KARACHI · KHARTOUM · KUWAIT · LARNACA · MARRAKESH · MUSCAT · PARIS · RIYADH · SANAA · SALAH · SHARJAH · SANA · TANZANIA · TUNIS · VADUZ · VIENTIANE · WAKAYAMA · YEKATERINBURG

FLY THE GOLDEN FALCON



Fly Gulf Air to any of our 35 destinations and experience traditional Arabian hospitality and the Golden Falcon Service.

طيران الخليج
GULFAIR
GOLDEN FALCON SERVICE

A TRULY CIVILISED WAY TO FLY.

SIRAZ · SHARJAH · SANA · SALAH · RIYADH · RAS AL KHAIMAH · PARIS · NAIROBI · MUSCAT · MANILA · LONDON ·

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Shamir's challenge to the Arab World

ISRAEL'S Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was at least honest about it when he declared out in the open Sunday that Israel will have to hold on to the occupied territories to accommodate the mass immigration of Soviet Jews. The question that remains is: will the Arab World be equally honest in explaining what they intend to do about it? The Arab parties most concerned about the Palestinian case, especially the PLO, are duty-bound to inform the Palestinian people under occupation what operational ideas or plans they have in mind to combat this large Israeli design on the Arab territories. If Arab governments are going to be satisfied with expression of concern and anxiety about the imminent Israeli plan to populate the occupied Arab territories with new waves of Jewish emigrants from far away country, and plan only to hold conferences about it then the Palestinian people waging their intifada for over two years must know this and know it fast.

Shamir was most candid before his audience in Tel Aviv Sunday when he equated the projected mass Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union to a miracle like "all miracles that have always rescued the Jewish people." Unfortunately the Arabs are short on miracles these days and unless they can have the kind of political will and serious determination to frustrate this latest Israeli conspiracy against the West Bank and Gaza Strip, then as Shamir has promised his people, in five years the whole issue of negotiating the future of these territories will be finished and done with. Meanwhile, the Palestinian people will continue waging their heroic struggle for liberty and self-determination against a background of fait accomplis by Israel before the very eyes of the Arab governments and peoples.

In this context it is tragic to note that Moscow and Washington are in league about this very ominous issue. With the USSR opening its gates for Soviet Jews to leave the country and the U.S. funding nearly the entire project of mass Jewish immigration to Israel, the Arab World has to reckon with this dangerous dimension as well. What better or stronger signals do the Arab countries need from the world to come to the conclusion that the relaxation in the East-West relations will not bring them much comfort as much as one would want to welcome the positive developments between the two camps? Clearly the Arab World will be left out in the cold against the backdrop of drastic improvements in relations between the East and the West. Instead of expressing concern and anxiety about the course of history, the Arab governments and peoples need to indulge in deep soul-searching about their fate and destiny in the coming decades.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AI Ra'i on Monday commented on a meeting between the prime minister and the Jordan Press Association board during which Mr. Badran emphasised the government's keenness on maintaining very constructive atmosphere for the local press to shoulder national responsibilities and contribute to the construction of the country. The paper said that the prime minister proved that he realises deeply the role of the media especially in the current democratic atmosphere introduced in Jordan. All that the prime minister requested from the press is to tell the truth about various situations in a responsible manner that would serve national interests, the paper added. It said that the prime minister stressed that his government will not interfere in the media and that no pressure will be exercised on any newspaper. In the light of the meeting the Jordanian journalists feel that their work and journalism in general is now entering a new era of openness, and one characterised with responsibility, requiring responsible reporting and objective analysis of all issues in a very constructive manner serving the national interests, the paper concluded.

Writing in Al Ra'i, columnist Salah Abdin Samad Monday tackles the question of medicine in Jordan and criticises the concerned authorities for failing to make available sufficient supplies of medicine at reasonable prices. There is a shortage of all types of medicine at the health centres around the country; and many patients began to believe that the shortage stems from a government austerity policy to reduce general spending, the writer notes. He says that the Ministry of Health, which is primarily responsible for the medicine situation in Jordan, should make its views open to the general public, and most importantly replenish its health centres with new supplies which mostly benefit the low and limited income groups in society. Medicine, he continues, is an essential commodity which should not be included in any austerity programme; and sufficient supplies should be made available especially for those sectors that cannot purchase their needs from the private pharmacies.

Al Dustour daily said Monday that the current tension between the United States and Israel is not only due to the Israeli government's intransigent position with regard to the Middle East question and the peace prospects, but to the negative results of Washington's continued drive to appease Tel Aviv and Yitzhak Shamir. The paper said that the United States is now finding itself confronting a stubborn Israeli government because the United States has been condoning Tel Aviv's obstinacy all along, and has failed to put an end to Zionist extremism. Washington's attitude over the past years and its failure to check Israel's crimes and violations of all international principles and laws have encouraged the extremists among the Zionists to pursue their criminal actions, said the paper. The Israelis are now so arrogant as to declare their disregard to Washington's views and the Baker plan and their determination to go ahead with unilateral arrangements for holding elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, noted the paper. It said that despite the current Israeli-U.S. tension, we cannot believe that Washington will undertake a serious action that would deter Israel from further atrocities.

Former E. European leaders threatened with imprisonment

By Roland Pritz
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Bulgaria's former Communist ruler could soon be facing criminal charges. His East German counterpart, elderly and ill, seems likely to avoid jail. The former Czech party chief is in limbo, with charges against him still possible.

Only Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu met a violent end. He was executed on Christmas day, in part for ordering his security troops to open fire on civilians who overthrew his government.

At least half a dozen members of the Ceausescu clan, including son Nicu and daughter Zofia-Elena, are known to be under arrest and awaiting trial, but they won't face death because capital punishment has been abolished by the interim government.

Such is the fate of East European leaders, who once held supreme power in their countries and then were swept away by revolutions in a 10-week period from October through December.

Ceausescu, dread and despised by his people, and his hated wife Elena were the only rulers who paid the ultimate price. The other hard-liners in the East Bloc died politically.

Erich Honecker, the long-time Communist leader of East Germany, was the first to go, ousted by his own politburo on Oct. 18 as massive street demonstrations swept the country and thousands emigrated to the West.

Zhivkov was dumped by his party comrades Nov. 10 for resisting the reforms being championed, and prosecutors have not said whether there is sufficient evidence to bring him to trial for

pioneered by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The same fate befell Czechoslovak Communist Party chief Milos Jakes on Nov. 24.

Then, in late December, the Ceausescus were cast out in a violent climax to the swift changes.

Stalinist systems which had held 111 million people in an iron grip in the Kremlin's satellite countries for over 40 years collapsed like a house of cards.

Among the deposed rulers, Zhivkov appears the most likely candidate for criminal prosecution, Bulgarian officials say.

He has been accused of ruining the economy and leading Bulgaria into international isolation, largely because of his brutal suppression of the country's 1.5 million ethnic Turks.

"We think (the charges) will be abuse of power, fraud, ...crimes against the constitution — depriving the whole people of their rights," said Petar Beron, a member of a parliamentary investigation commission.

The party is also looking into the Zhivkov's alleged diversion of Bulgarian government funds into hard-currency Swiss bank accounts and his misuse of state funds to build over 30 villas around the country.

Zhivkov is being "protected from the wrath of the people" at his Boyana residence near Sofia, Beron said. His trial date will be set after the investigation is completed, probably in late January.

East Germany's Honecker is ailing, and prosecutors have not said whether there is sufficient evidence to bring him to trial for

any crime.

Last week, he underwent what was said to be successful surgery, to remove a malignant kidney tumour.

Honecker had been placed under house arrest after charges of massive corruption in the former government were raised.

But informed sources said a security cordon imposed around Honecker's opulent residential compound near East Berlin was removed several weeks ago because "no legal grounds were established" on which to detain him.

At least 30 former top officials are under investigation in East Germany and most of them are under arrest. They include ousted trade union boss Harry Tisch and Guenther Mittag, who oversaw the centrally planned economy.

Only one top Communist functionary is known to be under arrest in Czechoslovakia. Miroslav Stepan, the former Prague city party boss, was charged with abuse of power, allegedly for ordering a bloody crackdown on demonstrating students Nov. 17 that triggered a peaceful revolution and ousted the Communists from power.

The fate of party leader Jakes is still unclear. A parliamentary commission investigated the Nov. 17 police crackdown, but apparently did not direct Jakes' personal involvement.

However, a separate Communist Party commission investigating the abuse of political power ordered Jakes, Stepan and Vasil Bilak, the hard-line ideologist, to turn in their party memberships. The Polish national assembly elected him president July 19, 1989, and he has worked closely since then with the Solidarity-led government.

It was Jaruzelski who decreed martial law in December 1981 to crush the independent labour union. And it was Jaruzelski who accepted the power-sharing arrangement last summer when it became obvious that Poland could not be governed without Solidarity's participation.

Gustav Husak, who came to power after the "Prague Spring" reform movement was crushed by the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, resigned as head of state on Dec. 10.

Husak and some 30 other senior officials had their party membership suspended by an extraordinary party congress earlier this month, pending results of the party investigation.

In Hungary, where reforms came earlier, Janos Kadar was removed as party leader in May 1988. He died last July. Kadar's reformist successor, Karoly Grosz, was overtaken by the pace of change and relieved, last year by a new group of reformers. Last October, they dissolved the Communist Party and established a new Western-oriented Socialist party.

In November, Hungarians voted overwhelmingly in a referendum for the party to make all its assets public.

The East Bloc leader who seems to have best survived the revolutionary turbulence engulfing Eastern Europe is Poland's Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, the armed forces chief.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, under pressure to expand political reform, suggested Saturday that he would not resist moves to allow multiple parties in the Soviet Union.



Free elections in Eastern Europe

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The tide of popular will that has forced the scheduling of free elections in most East Bloc nations appears to be sweeping the Soviet Union along.

1948. Balloting is scheduled for June.

Even though they don't face a ban like in Romania, the Czechoslovak Communists stand little chance to regain prominence and influence.

The Communist party has been discredited by the failure of its leaders, installed after the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia, to denounce the invasion, respect human rights and open a dialogue with opposition intellectuals.

Just two months after the peaceful revolution started in mid-November, Communists already are a minority in the 21-member government and will shortly be a minority in parliament.

In Bulgaria, new Communist party chief Petar Mladenov has also promised multi-party elections.

Several political groups, led by the ecologists movement, have been set up, but it is still unclear who the main contenders in the elections, tentatively scheduled for May, will be.

Hungary will be the first East Bloc country to stage multiparty elections this year. Its parliament, shedding the role of a rubber-stamp body, has provided the legal basis for the registration and operation of political parties for multiparty democracy.

The Hungarian elections in March will see a variety of conservative, social democratic and peasant parties vying for votes.

The Hungarian Communist party, which last year converted itself into the Hungarian Socialist party, could end up in a ruling coalition or in opposition.

In Romania, where the revolution only three weeks old, it is hard to say what parties will take part in the first elections after the ouster of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. The election date is also unclear.

The ruling National Salvation Front Council said it would arrange for elections in May, but the National Peasant party and other emerging political groups insist they need more time to prepare for the vote.

Therefore, the interim leadership is likely to postpone the election date at least until summer.

Under pressure from an angry crowd in Bucharest, interim Romanian President Ion Iliescu on Friday declared the Communist party outlawed. On Saturday, however, he reversed himself, saying it had been a rash decision and the issue would be resolved in a referendum on Jan. 28.

In Czechoslovakia, half a dozen parties, including the Communist party, may take part in the country's first free elections since

LETTERS

Driving you crazy

To the Editor:

Regarding the article about driving licences, (Dec. 25), I suggest that people might be more inclined to go and get one if the system in the administration section of the driving centre at 8th Circle was completely overhauled. At present it is just a chaotic mess with people pushing in from all directions, which became more and more aggravating and frustrating — and of course a complete waste of time for me and most other people as well. I asked one of the receptionists if he got tired of seeing people several times an hour. He said that he was always exhausted at the end of the day. Could not this system be shaken up so that it wastes less time for everybody, and the whole procedure dealt with in an orderly fashion, causing less frayed tempers?

Chris Lester
Amman

New Punjab peace initiative raises hopes

By Michael Batty
Reuter

AMRITSAR, India — The new Indian government's Punjab peace initiative has kindled renewed hopes of an end to the long, debilitating Sikh separatist war in the rich northern state.

And there are the first faint, flickering signs that militant leaders, whose war stretching back nearly a decade has cost thousands of lives, may be prepared to respond.

Grabaud, however, was hardly ecstatic about his publishing coup. Instead, the 65-year-old editor was ruminating about the "frivolity" of the American press — and fuming about allegations

that the pseudonym was a masterful bit of hype.

"The author's identity has become the subject of a guessing game and considerable gossip," Grabaud said. "It seems to be consuming more time and energy than the article itself."

Grabaud refused to name the author or explain why a pseudonym was used, except to say that there were "compelling reasons" to protect the writer's identity.

The article was about U.S.-Soviet relations, and it was signed simply "Z" — a pseudonym that it had been cut out for attention. It was an obvious allusion to a 1947 article, signed "X," that laid the theoretical framework for U.S. cold war policy of containment.

X's article, published in the journal Foreign Affairs, was eventually acknowledged to be the work of George F. Kennan, a State Department official who later became ambassador to the Soviet Union and one of the nation's leading diplomats.

Speculation about the identity of Z began last Thursday, when excerpts from the Daedalus article appeared on the opinion page of the New York Times.

Washington was soon alive with rumours that the author was a well-placed government official — perhaps even a well-placed Soviet government official.

Daedalus, a literary and philosophical quarterly published by the 210-year-old American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Cambridge, Massachusetts, printed 23,000 copies of Friday's edition — 3,000 more than usual — and expects to issue many reprints, said its editor, Stephen Granbart.

Grabaud, however, was hardly ecstatic about his publishing coup. Instead, the 65-year-old editor was ruminating about the "frivolity" of the American press — and fuming about allegations

that the pseudonym was a masterful bit of hype.

"... Western investment, in joint or other enterprises in Russia, would have to be handled without triumphalist about capitalism's superiority, and with due sensitivity to Soviet national pride," the article says. "The West's aim should be to encourage the change of Soviet realities while leaving the old labels intact."

The Arkansas Democrat newspaper reported Saturday that it had determined Z was retired Lt. Gen. William Odum, the former director of the National Security Agency. The newspaper quoted William E. Jackson Jr., an international relations professor at the University of Arkansas as saying Z.

As to the allegation by columnist Patrick Buchanan that the Z byline was "just clever hype," Grabaud was indignant.

"All you have to do is read Daedalus to know we don't go in for hype," he said. "I would use a pseudonym whenever I thought there were compelling reasons to do so. But I do not use it as a gimmick."

The article takes a gloomy view of Mikhail Gorbachev's chances of making the Soviet system economically efficient and politically democratic while maintaining the primacy of the Communist party.

Much of the speculation about Z's identity has focused on Robert M. Gates, President George Bush's deputy national security adviser. Gates had planned to give a speech late last year expressing pessimism about Gorbachev's chances of success, but was blocked by Secretary of State James A. Baker, who reportedly felt such sentiments were inappropriate around the time of the Malta summit.

While Gates might therefore want to publish his views under a pseudonym, and the article would seem to be in line with his general opinions, he denied through the White House press office on Friday.

"It's a sensible but not terribly original point of view," Ulam added.

sentiment and Singh's huge surge of popularity in the farming state could force concessions from militant leaders.

"If this effort is kept up, it would isolate the militants," he said.

Singh started his peace initiative within days of taking power, going to Amritsar's Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine, to pray for peace and mingle with the people with little overt security around him.

He launched a debate on Punjab which he said should lead to consensus on how to resolve the insurgency while keeping the state within India.

Singh called an all-party meeting in Delhi on Punjab, then on Jan. 11 held a multi-party rally in the Punjab city of Ludhiana and added to the list of concessions he has made

1990, the year of the horse

By Lee Tompkin

A HORSE has four principal gaits: walk, trot, canter and gallop. In a walk, the plowman goes, one foot at a time is placed on the ground. In a trot the front foot on one side and the hind foot on the other side touch the ground at almost the same moment, giving a two-beat rhythm.

In the capture there is also a two-beat rhythm, but it is the feet on the same side that touch the ground at the same time. The gallop is the natural top speed run of horses. It has a three-beat rhythm, that is slightly broken because once in each stride all four feet are off the ground at the same time.

By the Oriental Zodiac, 1990 is the year of the horse.

Koreans may have taken the horse to their heart from time immemorial. Records say that during the Three Kingdoms period (57 B.C.-668) young Koreans rode and visited rivers and mountains in order that they might find the courage and strength and acquire the skills to stand against attacks from out-

side.

Those, like *Hwarang* in the Silla Kingdom in southeastern Korea, and their horses became the backbone of the first successful attempt to unify the Korean peninsula in 668. Ancient Koreans also made paintings of horses, some of which can be still seen in royal tombs.

A horoscope is harmless so long as it is not taken too seriously. However, when one becomes unduly obsessed with it, the houses of heaven may really pull the strings on earth.

It has long been said that those born in the year of the Rat will have no worry about earning a livelihood, that those of the year of the Cock must spend money to earn as a chicken must peck around to find feed, and that a girl having the zodiac sign of the tiger is bound to overpower her husband; thus was one's fate bound to the attributes of the animal of the year of one's birth.

People think that such animal superstitions will fade away in these modern times, persisting only in folk tales. But many Koreans are still full of hope when they greet the coming year of the horse, believing in the

merits of the animal.

Throughout history, the horse has been the most valuable animal that man has domesticated. This has changed a great deal since the invention of the automobile, but the horse is still very valuable. The horse used to do everything that the automobile and the tractor and even the railroads do now.

It was very important in warfare, in special units of mounted soldiers called cavalry, but now these have been replaced by tanks and trucks. It was the horse that made possible most of the great conquests of ancient history, such as those of Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan, because without horses the armies could not have travelled so far or so fast.

In old Korea, *Hwarang* Kwan-chang of Silla (57 B.C.-935) rode out alone at the age of sixteen, making an assault all along the enemy line. The boy was captured by troops of the Paekche Kingdom (18 B.C.-660) in southwestern Korea and had his head cut off and sent to the Silla soldiers, according to historical records.

On seeing the dead Kwan-chang's head hanging on the saddle of his horse which found its way back, the Silla troops were so affected that they charged the enemy and changed the rout into victory, and could also conquer the Koguryo Kingdom in northern Korea later in 668 bringing peace and unity to the resulting nation of Korea.

Polo was a popular sport in Korea during the Koryo Dynasty (918 A.D.-1392) and early in the following Choson Dynasty (1392-1910). Korean kings were much interested in the sport. They adopted it as a subject for some civil servants' employment examinations.

Horse racing has been a popular sport for almost as long as horses have been domesticated. It was originally intended to improve the breed. The fastest horses were raced and the winners were crossed to try to obtain even faster runners.

A horse needs special care. It must be fed the right kind of food in the right quantity. It must be properly exercised. Its coat should be brushed or curry-combed every day. Horses have

By the Oriental Zodiac, 1990 is the Year of the Horse. This year 1990 has the fifth celestial stem and the seventh terrestrial branch, the horse, and is consequently called "Kyung-O" year in Korean.

of horses, each suited for a particular purpose or use. Some breeds are huge and powerfully muscled. They are used for pulling loads and doing other heavy work.

Some breeds are sleek and streamlined. They are ideal for riding, racing or just for show. Ponies have been developed to pull carts and serve as children's mounts — Korea Newsreview.



Death and deceit: Adored husband plotted murder

By George Esper
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Police believed Chuck Stuart when he said a black gunman had commanded his car, shot him in the stomach and fatally wounded his pregnant wife and their unborn child.

The shocking story made headlines across the United States. Most Americans saw the Smarts as middle-class victims of urban crime on that bleak night in October.

People were horrified by the tale of a couple, kidnapped after leaving a childbirth class in Boston, taken at gunpoint in their own car, robbed and shot.

Stuart's story about a black assailant touched off a vast manhunt. Police fanned out through the Mission Hill neighbourhood, frisking black men. State politicians called for the reinstatement of the death penalty.

The story had only begun to fade from the headlines two

weeks ago, when Stuart leaped off a bridge and drowned himself. Then police released the startling news that Smart had become the prime suspect in killings of his wife and child.

A story that had, at the outset, seemed to justify white fears about black crime suddenly was exposed as a shocking hoax. Blacks were outraged that authorities had fallen for Stuart's lie.

"Stuart used the idea of a black man doing violence to a white woman because it was probably the most reasonable thing he could say to cover up his wrong-doing," said Paul Parks, a veteran activist and former state secretary of education.

The tragedy might have been treated as a routine urban crime story except for a dramatic, tape-recorded 10-minute exchange between the wounded Stuart and state police dispatcher Gary McLaughlin, who pleaded with

Now authorities are sorting rumours and evidence, both focusing on insurance money, looking for a motive in Carol Stuart's murder and any partners in the plot.

One of the most fascinating — and repellent — aspects of the Stuart case is that two younger brothers had early knowledge of the crime.

Last week, Matthew Stuart, 23, told his attorney he'd known for 2½ months about the plot to kill his sister-in-law. Richard Clayman, attorney for Michael Stuart, disclosed to reporters that Michael told him, 27, about the plot Oct. 26, just three days after Carol's death.

In addition, Clayman said, Chuck and Michael had a "disjointed, vague conversation" some weeks before the murder, and Michael told Chuck: "I don't know exactly what you're talking about, but I'm not getting involved with anything, any sort of

crazy thing you're talking about."

Matthew Stuart stood at Carol's wake and carried her casket.

"If they did know and they sat with us and cried, then it is the ultimate hypocrisy," said Carol Stuart's brother, Carl Dimaiti.

Details of the plot kept tumbling out last week. Stuart was the beneficiary of at least two insurance policies on his wife totalling \$182,000, and authorities were said to be checking reports of at least one other policy worth more than twice that amount. Published reports said Stuart needed the money to realise a dream of starting his own restaurant.

A nickel-plated .38-caliber revolver pulled Tuesday from a river appears to be the one stolen from the fur store Chuck Stuart managed.

Stuart's dark side now shadows living victims. His father, Charles Sr., and his mother, Dot, apparently were told by other

children of Chuck's involvement in Carol's murder just two days before his suicide.

Chuck spent his last night, Jan. 3, in a hotel room, avoiding police who by now were watching his suburban Reading home.

Hours before, officers had heard Matthew describe how Chuck tossed him Carol's gucci bag containing the .38-caliber revolver and her jewellery, apparently just after the shootings. The bag was recovered from the same river as the gun.

Others also felt anger.

Blacks say black victims never get the kind of attention paid the Stuarts. They assert that the police squads who flooded the Mission Hill area, where the shootings were alleged to have taken place, ran roughshod over residents in their hunt for clues.

"When I ordered an aggressive police response... I wanted to send a strong signal... to show the city's outrage," Mayor Raymond Flynn said.

Three weeks after the murder, William Bennett, a 39-year-old paroled convict with a long record of violence, including the shooting of a police officer, was arrested and held on a warrant for motor vehicle violation.

Bennett became the prime suspect in the Stuart case after grand jury witnesses said he had boasted of committing the crime.

Stuart's suicide cleared Bennett, but black leaders were furious. They asserted Bennett had been railroaded, that his and other blacks' constitutional rights had been violated. They accused law officers of being all too willing to narrow their investigation to the black community.

Paul Leary, first assistant district attorney of Suffolk county, retorted that black neighbourhood residents themselves had led police to Bennett as the no. 1 suspect.

"Folks, Charles Stuart took us all in," said Flynn.



ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE DECISIONS YOU'LL EVER MAKE.

While choosing between BMW's may not be the easiest decision you'll ever make, any difficulty is eclipsed by the pure pleasure it brings.

All BMW's are manufactured to the same impeccable standards of excellence, offering a level of performance, sophistication and comfort that's earned them the motoring world's highest accolades for technical, mechanical and design superiority. The ultimate driving machines.

Consider this an invitation to visit our showrooms; we'd love to introduce you to one of the most enjoyable decisions you'll ever make.

Ahmed Abunameh & Sons Co

Mahatta Street,
Amman,
Tel: 651770
Tlx: 21706 JOTAC JO
Fax: 656640



Economist sees loss to Arab states from investment rush to E. Europe

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Economic aid to Arab states like Tunisia, North Yemen and Algeria would probably stop as Western and Eastern Bloc countries pour funds into East Europe, a Palestinian economist said Monday.

Nabil Shaath, advised to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, said highly trained East-European workers would choose to work in West Europe rather than Arab countries, and returning Arab labour from Europe would put additional pressure on the region.

He told 350 participants from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates attending a two-day marketing course they must think of their role in East Europe.

"We must think of the role we can play in East Europe," he said. "I underline the contracting sector because Saudi contractors with Sudanese labour could invade these markets."

In the short term, the political and economic upheavals in East Europe were not in the interests of Arab states, he said.

But this could change if Arab nations formed a unified economic bloc to take advantage of new opportunities generated by the change, Shaath added.

"East Europe is a big prospective market for Gulf states in particular because they are the only Arab countries who can tie finance with their trade," Shaath, chairman of the Palestine National Council's political committee, said.

"We want all of Europe to become a market for Arab exports and investments and the only way we can do this is by becoming a

unified Arab bloc," he said.

Shaath said Arab causes would choose to work in West and East Europe concentrated on unifying their policies.

He said the single European market proposed for 1992 would at first create barriers for Arab exports. But the 12-nation grouping would be less likely to bow to political pressure from the United States, Shaath added.

"Europe will be able to give more support to the Palestinian question as a result of its independence from America," he said.

Shaath said Arab states had to change their marketing strategy from one based on import product replacement to an export-oriented strategy aimed at international consumers.

"Our problem is that we think of our exports as the excess of what we can sell locally... but if we make our products more competitive internationally we will also be able to compete with imports in our local markets," he said.

Shaath called for more Arab investment in technology and research, saying that in the past 20 years Arab states had not managed to successfully transfer Western technology.

"Unless we take in the modern technology now and develop our own we cannot really export anything nor can we find our place in the today's changing world," he

said. In Paris, President Francois Mitterrand urged representatives from 34 nations Tuesday to speed up efforts to open a development bank to ease Eastern Europe's path toward the free market.

Opening a two-day conference to set terms for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Eastern Europe, Mitterrand expressed hope the bank could be operating by next spring.

"If we don't move fast enough, we risk being passed up by events," he told delegates from both Eastern and Western Europe, asking them to move at a speed that isn't traditional in international affairs."

The nations are expected to agree on putting at least \$12 billion into such a bank.

Mitterrand proposed the idea to leaders of the 12-nation European Community (EC) in November and the EC formally approved the concept at last month's summit in Strasbourg.

Under the European plan, the bank would provide loans and economic and technical assistance to Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Romania and Bulgaria.

The deficit-plagued United States has given Western Europe

the lead in the plan due to the EC's greater familiarity with the problems in Eastern Europe.

The starting point of the talks will be a French proposal where the EC would hold a majority share of 53 per cent of the capital.

The four largest countries, France, Britain, West Germany and Italy, reportedly been asked to hold 8.5 per cent each.

The United States, Japan and Soviet Union would each hold 8.5 per cent as would the European Free Trade Association composed of Switzerland, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Iceland.

"Though reduction in the magnitude of external dependence through generation of domestic savings has been the professed objective of successive political regimes in Bangladesh, the attainment of even a moderate degree of self-reliance remains a distant dream," Sultan Hafeez Rahman told an economic seminar.

He said the country now made little contribution to formulation of its own fundamental economic policies.

Its current adjustment programme, designed to restore the economy, "could even be inconsistent with long-run policy objectives and impair the country's strategic development options," he added. "This is a price Bangladesh pays for excessive dependence on foreign aid."

Bangladesh, a poor South Asian nation with an annual per capita income of only \$160, has over \$9 billion of foreign debt.

Debt servicing cost it 30.9 per cent of its export earnings in 1988-89 compared with 19.8 per cent in

Bangladesh continues to rely heavily on foreign assistance

1982-83, according to government statistics.

President Hoosin Mohammad Ershad spoke of the need for more inflow of foreign aid to stimulate growth in low-income countries like Bangladesh.

"But unfortunately, development assistance from the industrialised nations has not reached the desired level," he said.

Bangladesh, with a population of about 110 million crammed into an area of 144,000 square kilometres, receives annual economic aid of around \$2 billion to

finance its development programmes and millions more as disaster relief.

In the early 1980s it embarked on a new economic policy known as the adjustment programme after experiencing a sharp decline in its economy and in aid flow.

The adjustment package included measures for mobilisation of domestic savings and reduction of public expenditure by phasing out subsidies and slashing public investment.

But a recent report from the U.N. Conference on Trade and

Development (UNCTAD) said the policy had failed to improve conditions for some of the poorest people of the world.

"The adjustment programme has contributed very little to furthering poverty alleviation and training human resources development targets," the report said.

"Poverty is widespread, 51 per cent of the population are below the internationally defined poverty line, with 60 per cent in the rural areas living in absolute poverty," it concluded.

U.S. chain stores file for protection

Industry ministers gather for AOID board meeting

BAGHDAD (J.T.) — Ministers responsible for industry in Jordan and in other Arab countries will take part in the board meeting of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID), which will open here Wednesday.

The 22 participating ministers will endorse amendments to the agreement at the national and pan-Arab levels, the organisation's working plan for the coming six months as well as fiscal budgets for 1990 and 1991.

Minister of Agriculture Saleh Arabyat left Amman for Tripoli Monday to take part in the meeting.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

JLTC officials to discuss 1990 plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The general assembly of the Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company (JLTC) will open a meeting in Baghdad Thursday to discuss a working plan for 1990 and this year's fiscal budget. A company official in Amman said the JLTC collected JD 1.75 million profit from its operations in 1989, up from JD 1 million in the previous years. The company now owns more than 700 trucks which operate between Jordan and Iraq and between these two countries and the Arab World. The company is currently studying an expansion project to make spare parts so that its operations can cover the needs of the company and other parties as well. Last November, Jordan and Iraq signed an agreement on transportation of goods and passengers by land.

The new entity will group three previous Arab League organisations: the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology, the Arab Mining Company and the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development and Mining.

It followed weeks of speculation in the retail trade over how Campeau would deal with the problems of operating its debt-burdened store chains while continuing to pay supplies.

Federated and Allied have combined debts of some \$8 billion, much of it accumulated when Campeau acquired the two companies in the mid-1980s.

The decision to seek chapter 11 relief was based on a conclusion that action was required at this time in order to preserve the operations strength and assets of the two department store companies while the corporate debt is restructured," Campeau said in a news release.

Campeau said the filing was made in the U.S. bankruptcy court for the southern district of Ohio. Federated and Allied are based in Cincinnati.

Under a chapter 11 filing, the companies can continue operations while recognising their finances.

Iran, Austria agree to boost trade

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Tehran and Vienna have agreed to boost trade and industrial cooperation, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The agency said the agreement was announced following talks between Erik Witmann, who arrived in Tehran Saturday at the head of an Austrian delegation for a five-day visit, and Iran's Deputy Industry Minister Ashraf Afkhami. Afkhami told Witmann Iran is willing to boost cooperation with Austria in the paper industry, foodstuffs, mining, heavy industries, and research and training. IRNA said Afkhami urged Witmann to adjust any trade imbalance between the two countries. Without giving any figures, Witmann noted that his country's imports from Iran have risen by 65 per cent, while Austrian exports to Tehran have increased by 24 per cent since March, IRNA reported. It added Witmann said his country was keen to take part in Iran's reconstruction projects. Witmann suggested that Tehran and Vienna set up a joint economic commission to boost trade within a few months, IRNA said.

SABIC may invest in UAE projects

ABU DHABI (R) — A delegation from the Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) is visiting the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to discuss prospects for joint ventures. The delegation, headed by SABIC Deputy Chairman Ibrahim bin Salma, met officials from Abu Dhabi's General Industry Corporation, which runs the emirate's non-oil industrial development projects. "The two sides discussed joint industrial ventures and the General Industry Corporation presented a list of about 10 projects," one industry source said.

Israeli farmers strike to protest hardships

TEL AVIV (R) — Farmers along Israel's northern border staged a strike Monday to protest economic hardships, saying Katyusha rockets would not drive them from their homes but poverty might.

Now farmers on the northern border accuse the government of ignoring them in favour of incentives for settlements in the occupied West Bank, home to a million Palestinians.

The radio reported Monday the apparent suicide of a farmer on the northern border. It would be the second suicide in a week among the northern farmers.

Post threatens action

Meanwhile, the Jerusalem Post threatened legal action Sunday against staff who quit in dispute with the publisher, but the rebels dismissed the move as a "bullying tactic" to prevent them from starting a new Israeli daily.

The farmers are demanding higher government subsidies for eggs and chickens. But Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz said in a television interview Sunday the farmers should diversify their economic base and rely less on agriculture.

"I definitely agree with the agricultural minister's call in principle that we have to vary the sources of employment in the area," Zvili said in an interview with Israeli radio.

Israel's communal farms, once the backbone of settlement in the Zionist state, are now saddled with multi-billion dollar debts.

The management of the Mostazafin Foundation, of the tourism department of the Mostazafin Foundation, told a news conference in Tehran the number could be doubled at a later stage, the official Islamic

Post has been in turmoil since its editor resigned in December saying the Canadian Hollinger chain which bought the paper last year had infringed on his editorial freedom.

Thirty journalists, including most senior editors, resigned over the issue, demanding that Hollinger remove publisher Ahmed Levy, a reserve colonel appointed to manage the newspaper.

The Post said in a brief press release:

"The management of the Jerusalem Post has requested its attorneys to consider legal action against some of the persons who resigned from the paper this month, in view of their actions and words during and after their employment. The relevant material has been handed to the attorneys."

The statement did not elaborate.

The radio quoted an unnamed transportation ministry official as saying tourists will be shuttled across the Caspian Sea.

Hashemi, director of the Azadi International Tourist Organisation, the tourism subsidiary of his foundation, operates 32 international standard hotels in Tehran and other cities.

After a decade of self-imposed isolation, Iran launched a drive recently to revive its once flourishing tourist industry to promote a better image and earn badly needed foreign currency.

A separate report by Tehran Radio said plans for the exchange of tourists between Iran and the Soviet Union have been completed.

The radio quoted an unnamed transportation ministry official as saying tourists will be shuttled across the Caspian Sea.

Hashemi, director of the Azadi International Tourist Organisation, the tourism subsidiary of his foundation, operates 32 international standard hotels in Tehran and other cities.

After a decade of self-imposed isolation, Iran launched a drive recently to revive its once flourishing tourist industry to promote a better image and earn badly needed foreign currency.

Hashemi confirmed that the ultimate goal of attracting tourists was to increase revenue and achieve political and cultural objectives.

Iran seeks to revive tourism

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran is ready to accommodate some 300,000 tourists and earn more than \$210 million annually under the first stage of a tourism plan, a government official has said.

Mahdi Hashemi, director of the tourism department of the Mostazafin Foundation, told a news conference in Tehran the number could be doubled at a later stage, the official Islamic

Post has been in turmoil since its editor resigned in December saying the Canadian Hollinger chain which bought the paper last year had infringed on his editorial freedom.

The radio quoted an unnamed transportation ministry official as saying tourists will be shuttled across the Caspian Sea.

Hashemi, director of the Azadi International Tourist Organisation, the tourism subsidiary of his foundation, operates 32 international standard hotels in Tehran and other cities.

After a decade of self-imposed isolation, Iran launched a drive recently to revive its once flourishing tourist industry to promote a better image and earn badly needed foreign currency.

A separate report by Tehran Radio said plans for the exchange of tourists between Iran and the Soviet Union have been completed.

The radio quoted an unnamed transportation ministry official as saying tourists will be shuttled across the Caspian Sea.

Hashemi, director of the Azadi International Tourist Organisation, the tourism subsidiary of his foundation, operates 32 international standard hotels in Tehran and other cities.

After a decade of self-imposed isolation, Iran launched a drive recently to revive its once flourishing tourist industry to promote a better image and earn badly needed foreign currency.

Hashemi confirmed that the ultimate goal of attracting tourists was to increase revenue and achieve political and cultural objectives.

Peanuts

Jumble

Andy Capp

Mutt'n'Jeff

Andy Capp

Sports talks between the two Koreas fail

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Sports officials from South and North Korea failed again Monday to agree on procedures for forming a joint team for this year's Asian Games, clouding the future of the games, reports said.

Monday's meeting, the fourth since Dec. 1, broke down after each side accused the other of insensitivity in preparing for the September games Beijing, according to South Korean reporters invited to the meeting.

Tense exchanges at the working-level meeting clouded prospects for the next talks, scheduled to resume on Friday, said reports carried by all major South Korean newspapers and Yonhap, the South Korean news agency.

"Their attitude today is very regrettable. We doubt whether the north has a real intention to form a single team," they quoted the chief South Korean working-level official, Im Tae-Soo, as saying.

North Korea's chief working-level delegate, Chang Woong, was quoted as telling reporters, "if the talks fail, the south should be held responsible."

Monday's meeting, at the rural village of Panmunjom inside the demilitarized zone,

separating the two Koreas, was closed to the foreign news media.

Sports talks had earlier made steady progress. The two sides earlier agreed on a team name, flag, song and methods for selection and training of athletes.

But the negotiations bogged down last week when North Korea refused to sign a set of South Korea's proposed binding each side to fully implementing the details of agreements on forming a single team.

South Korea's proposed accords included a proposal for holding goodwill volleyball and ping-pong games before signing a formal agreement on a single team.

South Korean officials argued that such goodwill games were needed to build mutual trust and test whether North Korea genuinely wants to form a single team. During the negotiations, North Korea opposed any goodwill games.

South Korean officials expressed concern that North Korea might raise difficult technical or political issues at the last minute, blocking Seoul's participation in the Beijing games.

The deadline for entry in the games is June 22.

Maradona's belief in miracles gets a boost

DIEGO Maradona was able to face his daughter with his head held high and his faith in miracles intact on Sunday after Napoli hit last minute goals to stave off a seemingly inevitable defeat at lowly Udinese and stay top of the Italian League.

Napoli were 2-0 down to their little fancied opposition with just three minutes remaining when the Argentine World Cup captain scored from the penalty spot in the 88th minute and then set up an amazing equaliser as the match entered injury time.

The stocky midfielder sent a pass across goal for Giacomo Corradi to scramble into the back of the net.

By then defending champions Internazionale, 3-0 winners against Bologna, had already started celebrating a result they believed had finally toppled their southern rivals.

"When I hit that penalty I thought it would be useless," Maradona said, admitting that he had almost lost hope when Luca Martini scored Udinese's second goal in the 87th minute.

"I thought I would have to tell my daughter that we had suffered a nasty defeat. Now I can tell her about a miracle."

Napoli trainer Alberto Bigon was equally grateful to fortune for saving his team from their second defeat of the season.

"I feel as if we were saved by a miracle after risking going under ... when Udinese went 2-0 up I had given up all hope."

It was the fifth time this season that Napoli had pulled back late goals to save themselves from the brink of defeat and retain the slot

they gained on October 1 as league leaders.

But with only one point separating them from a resurgent Internazionale, who wrapped up their victory in 16 minutes, and with European Cup holders AC Milan moving steadily up the table, Napoli's position looks increasingly under threat.

FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Consisting of 3 bedrooms, salon, dining room, and 2 bathrooms with telephone and independent central heating.

Location: Shmeisani.

For further details please call 604163, 679972.

MANY VILLAS AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT & SALE

Furnished or Unfurnished

In Shmeisani, Swefi, Abdoun and many other locations.

For more information please call
Wael Real Estate
Tel: 685342, 682097

For all your:

Packing, Air Freight Forwarding, Customs Clearance, Door-to-door Service, Ticketing and Reservation needs,

please call:

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Abdel Hameed Sharaf Street
Shmeisani
P.O. Box 7806
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 604676, 50496

CROWN INT'L EST.

packing, shipping, forwarding, storing, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 604676, Fax: 60462
The Best BERMCO JO
P.O. Box 823497
AMMAN JORDAN

MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pots available

Take away available
Open daily 12:00-15:30
18:00-23:30
Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialties
Open daily 12:00-13:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight

EVERY DAY

PEOPLE WHO NEED

CLEANING SERVICES

CALL US!

Electrolux

P.O.Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at our shop and get:

* JUMBO photo size 30% larger
* Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042
Swefi: tel: 823891

Slide film Processing by Konica

Same Day Service for all E6 films at Salbashian Trading Co.

Wadi Saqra str. Next to Petra Bank Headquarters

Tel: 633418

Kashmir Restaurant

FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT

Special Executive Luncheons

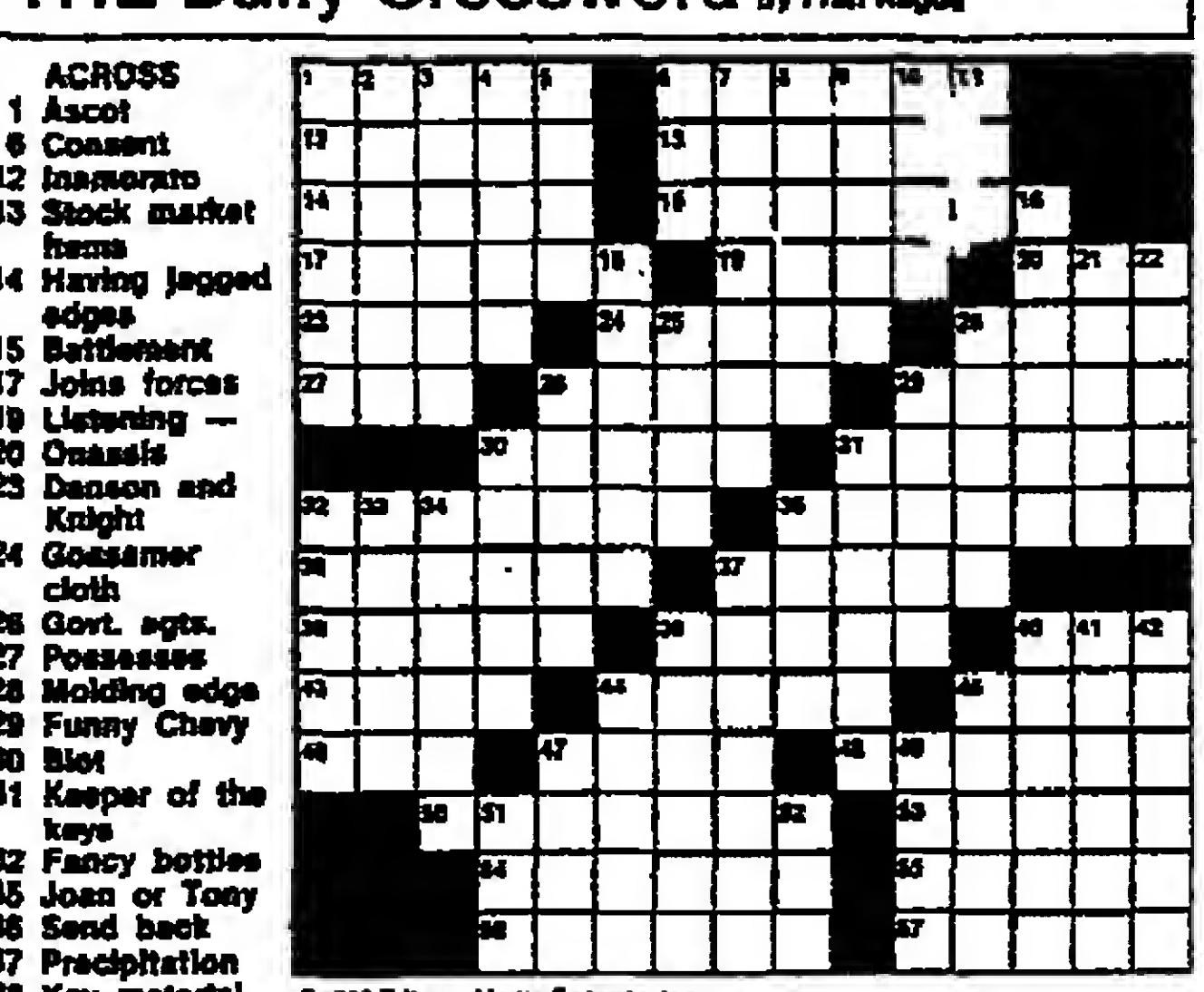
Take away service available

Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm
After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd circle

Tel: 659519 659520

THE Daily Crossword

by Fran Regis



© 1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All Rights Reserved

Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

1. RUGA 2. LIEUT. 3. ALLIGATOR 4. MOORE 5. DELL 6. GUNN 7. ELLIOTT 8. REEF 9. QINT 10. ELLIOTT 11. FAIR 12. LINDEN 13. GALL 14. HILL 15. GALL 16. TAMPICO 17. FAVORITE 18. BIRDS 19. BIRDS 20. BIRDS 21. BIRDS 22. BIRDS 23. BIRDS 24. BIRDS 25. BIRDS 26. BIRDS 27. BIRDS 28. BIRDS 29. BIRDS 30. BIRDS 31. BIRDS 32. BIRDS 33. BIRDS 34. BIRDS 35. BIRDS 36. BIRDS 37. BIRDS 38. BIRDS 39. BIRDS 40. BIRDS 41. BIRDS 42. BIRDS 43. BIRDS 44. BIRDS 45. BIRDS

46. BIRDS 47. BIRDS 48. BIRDS 49. BIRDS 50. BIRDS 51. BIRDS 52. BIRDS

53. BIRDS 54. BIRDS 55. BIRDS 56. BIRDS 57. BIRDS

58. BIRDS 59. BIRDS 60. BIRDS 61. BIRDS 62. BIRDS 63. BIRDS 64. BIRDS 65. BIRDS 66. BIRDS 67. BIRDS 68. BIRDS 69. BIRDS 70. BIRDS 71. BIRDS 72. BIRDS 73. BIRDS 74. BIRDS 75. BIRDS 76. BIRDS 77. BIRDS 78. BIRDS 79. BIRDS 80. BIRDS 81. BIRDS 82. BIRDS 83. BIRDS 84. BIRDS 85. BIRDS 86. BIRDS 87. BIRDS 88. BIRDS 89. BIRDS 90. BIRDS 91. BIRDS 92. BIRDS 93. BIRDS 94. BIRDS 95. BIRDS 96. BIRDS 97. BIRDS 98. BIRDS 99. BIRDS 100. BIRDS

JORDAN AMMAN TRANSPORT AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

LOAN No. 2334-J0.

The Municipality of Greater Amman (MOGA) intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above loan to lift dump trucks (hoists).

Tender documents can be available as of Monday January 15, 1990 for a non-refundable fee of JD 120.000 from:

Tenders Department
Municipality of Greater Amman
P.O. Box 132
Amman - Jordan
Tel: No. 21969 AMCITY-JO
Fax No. 9626649420

Closing date for accepting bids is Monday February 26, 1990 at 11:00 at the same address mentioned above.

Bids will be opened in public one hour after the closing date.

RENT Saudi Real Estate

Furnished & unfurnished apartments & villas for rent in West Amman area.

CALL SOHA

Rental Dept. 687821/22

EASTERN PACKING DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING AIR & SEA FREIGHT.

TELE: 06-5221-2121
FAX: 06-5221-2222
E-MAIL: EASPACK@J2.JO

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

667171/6-670141/4

Ext. 223

WANTED

An industrial company located in Sahab requires a Graphic Designer preferably with good background in design for printing of packaging material.

For interview call 722713, 722651

Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 625155

LICENCE TO KILL

Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

FOR RENT MODERN FURNISHED APARTMENTS

• One-bedroom, living-dining room k & b.
• Two bedrooms, living-dining room k & b.
Central heating and telephones.

Location: Jabal Amman between 3rd & 4th Circles.

Tel: 641443 - 642351

Cinema CONCORD Tel: 677420

COMING TO AMERICA

Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema PHILADELPHIA Tel: 634144

RAGE TO KILL

Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema NIJOUN Tel: 675571

Ahmad Zaki - Yuera in One Woman is Not Enough (Arabic)

Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema PLAZA Tel: 674111

SUMMER SCHOOL

Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Bulgaria Communists to give up monopoly

SOFIA (R) — Bulgaria's Communist leaders agreed Monday to abandon their 45-year-old monopoly on power and offered an open dialogue on democracy with all parties.

Parliament agreed unanimously to end the party's leading role but postponed a formal vote on changing the constitution until the end of its session Monday or Tuesday.

"We are ready to give up our monopoly guaranteed by law, to study pluralism as a normal state," leading Communist Party politburo member Andrei Lukyanov told the National Assembly.

"We are ready to conduct an open dialogue with all social and political forces without discrimination," he said.

The move follows the scrapping of similar clauses by Hungary, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, which like Bulgaria have promised free elections this year.

The assembly, a rubber stamp parliament under disgraced leader Todor Zhivkov, voted in principle to delete from the constitution the key clause enshrining the role of the party as the "guiding force" in government.

It also agreed in principle to scrap a second clause forcing the smaller Agrarian Union into a ruling coalition with the Communists.

A handful of demonstrators carrying pro-democracy placards paraded outside parliament in the second half of the week.

Monday's session was also expected to discuss an agreement drawn up Friday by nationalists, Muslims, government and opposition representatives aimed

at defusing tension between Bulgarians and the country's large ethnic Turkish minority.

It is also expected to debate an amnesty for ethnic Turks and other Muslims punished for refusing to change Islamic names to Bulgarian ones during a cultural assimilation programme imposed by Zhivkov.

Deep-seated ethnic rivalry, dating back to 500 years of Ottoman rule, boiled over into Bulgarian nationalist protests when the government, in a move approved by the reformist opposition, restored Muslim rights last month.

Sunday's rally, which Western diplomats described as the opposition's largest show of strength, demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov for his role in the assimilation programme. The diplomats said it was possible that he could be ousted at Monday's session.

A number of delegates at Monday's session proposed that parliament also scrap the remaining clause of the all-important paragraph one of the constitution.

This clause states that "the People's Republic of Bulgaria is a socialist state of the working class people from town and country, headed by the working class."

Lukyanov said this and other constitutional amendments should be put to a working group, which would include non-party members and would report back to parliament in the second half of the week.

Monday's session was also expected to discuss an agreement drawn up Friday by nationalists, Muslims, government and opposition representatives aimed

at defusing tension between Bulgarians and the country's large ethnic Turkish minority.

It is also expected to debate an amnesty for ethnic Turks and other Muslims punished for refusing to change Islamic names to Bulgarian ones during a cultural assimilation programme imposed by Zhivkov.

Deep-seated ethnic rivalry, dating back to 500 years of Ottoman rule, boiled over into Bulgarian nationalist protests when the government, in a move approved by the reformist opposition, restored Muslim rights last month.

Sunday's rally, which Western diplomats described as the opposition's largest show of strength, demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov for his role in the assimilation programme. The diplomats said it was possible that he could be ousted at Monday's session.

Opposition leaders at the rally also called for full free elections planned for May to be postponed until November to allow more time for preparation.

"Elections in May are impossible for us because the Communists are the only organised party and they would win," opposition leader Zhelyu Zhelev told Western journalists.

Instead, the opposition wants partial elections in May to contest seats still held by parliamentarians compromised under Zhivkov, who was ousted in November.

The opposition umbrella group, the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), said it would present the demands at round-table talks between government and opposition which start Tuesday.

Amnesty accuses Hong Kong of mistreating boat people

HONG KONG (Agencies) — Vietnamese boat people in Hong Kong suffer beatings by security forces, and many could risk political persecution when they are forced back to their Communist homeland, Amnesty International charged Monday.

The London-based human rights group called on the Hong Kong government to stop its forced repatriation programme, which began in December.

"The fundamental rights of people who face a genuine risk of persecution are being violated," said the report, which was based on a recent fact-finding mission to Hong Kong.

The government of this British colony had no immediate comment, but Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd of Britain said in a speech that Hong Kong must "empty the camps as quickly as possible."

"Hong Kong has shamed this burden for too long," he said.

Amnesty accused the Hong Kong government of mistreating the 51 boat people who were forcibly returned to Vietnam in December.

It quoted witnesses as saying security forces dragged them

from the Chi ma Wan detention centre in a dawn raid on Oct. 31, using kicks, beatings and choke holds. They were then taken to another detention centre, the Phoenix House.

Early Dec. 12, hundreds of security forces in riot gear brought them to the international airport.

During that operation, reporters did not see any evidence of brutality.

The report also charged the government with quashing investigations of official misconduct in the camps, citing two incidents when 200 boat people were allegedly beaten and kicked by security forces last year.

In the High Island detention centre, it said, unruly boat people are routinely locked in empty subdivided cargo containers for several days.

The report said many Vietnamese feared that if they spoke up about abuses, they faced "possible retribution by the police and risked unfavourable treatment in the screening process."

Amnesty said Hong Kong had told the organisation by letter that the British colony's Governor Sir David Wilson had de-

Britain: No shoot-to-kill policy

BELFAST (R) — Britain has denied having a "shoot-to-kill" policy for the security forces in Northern Ireland after the relatives of three robbers shot dead by undercover soldiers said they had been mistaken for Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas.

The three, petty criminals with a long record of convictions, were killed Saturday while raiding a betting office armed only with imitation guns.

The shootings provoked an outcry with Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins demanding a full report. British opposition politicians calling for a detailed inquiry and local nationalists claiming they were killed in cold blood.

Northern Ireland Minister of State Brian Mawhinney said Sun-

day: "There is no shoot-to-kill policy for the security forces in Northern Ireland. The only people who are conducting a shoot-to-kill policy in Northern Ireland are the terrorists."

Siún Fein, political wing of the IRA, urged the human rights group Amnesty International to investigate the shootings. It said the men had no connections with the IRA, which is fighting to oust Britain from Northern Ireland.

Siún Fein likened their deaths to the 1988 killings in Gibraltar by British Special Air Services (SAS) commandos of three unarmed IRA guerrillas on an abortive bombing mission.

The sister of one of the Belfast victims told reporters: "We believe the SAS were tipped off that

Rushdie says he is not an enemy of Islam

LONDON (Agencies) — Author Salman Rushdie, in hiding for almost a year after his novel "The Satanic Verses" drew Iranian death threats, says he has not betrayed his Islamic heritage.

"I am not the enemy of my own people," he said in a telephone interview published Monday in the *Guardian* newspaper. "I do not feel like the enemy of my people."

Rushdie, 42, born to Muslim parents in India, declined to comment on his security situation but said: "You shouldn't assume that I have very much freedom at all."

He went into hiding in Britain last February after Iran's late spiritual leader Ayatollah Kuhol-

lah Khomeini called on Muslims to kill him for blasphemy.

Rushdie told the *Guardian* that hostility against him was misplaced and said he had received many letters of support from Muslims who had read the book.

"One would wish the thing to come to an end," he said. "But I'm not the maker of the problem."

"I think if some of the people who protested about the book took the trouble to read it, they would see that it is not unsympathetic to them."

Publication of "The Satanic Verses" sparked Muslim anger worldwide and Rushdie, who has lived in Britain since he was 13, said he did not think he would be

more secure by moving to another country.

"One of the things this has shown is that the world is very small," he said.

Since going into hiding, Rushdie has written book reviews for British and American newspapers.

Salman Rushdie

more secure by moving to another country.

"One of the things this has shown is that the world is very small," he said.

More than 6,000 people have been killed in the struggle between the People's Liberation Front and the government since 1987.



ROMANIAN FURY: A crowd in Bucharest buring a Communist Party flag during a mass protest Friday that turned

into a demonstration against the National Salvation Front, which took power after toppling dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Manila steps up hunt for coup leaders

MANILA (Agencies) — Philippine police Monday announced the capture of a rebel military leader and the armed forces chief predicted others involved in last month's bloody coup attempt would be seized "one by one."

Bibit admitted involvement in the failed army insurrection when he was presented to reporters Monday, two days after his capture in Manila's southeastern district of Taguig.

"It's a matter of conviction," he said when asked why he joined the mutiny, the sixth and most serious coup attempt Bibit has faced in his four years in office.

President Corazon Aquino told reporters she had ordered army Chief-of-Staff General Renato de Villa to give priority to the capture of leaders still at large following the Dec. 17 putsch.

Aquino said the fear of a further coup attempt would remain until all the plotters were brought to justice.

Police said they had arrested retired Lieutenant-Colonel Billy Bibit, chief of customs intelligence, who is listed by the military as one of 15 leaders of the insurrection.

A provincial governor meanwhile threatened to lead a "people power" uprising if Aquino's administration removed him for alleged links to the failed coup.

Presidential spokesman Adolf

Azuma said the government was determined to prosecute the government.

Gov. Rodolfo Aguiraldo, a former lieutenant colonel in the Philippine Constabulary, said he may order his constituents in northern Cagayan province to attack corrupt government officials.

"Where would I go if I am suspended or expelled?" Aguiraldo asked in a telephone interview with the AP from his office in Tuguegarao, 320

kilometres northeast of Manila.

"I have only my principles. They (government officials) are harassing me. What will I do? I will fight, fight and fight. That's it," he said.

Local government Secretary Luis Santos suspended Aguiraldo from office last week after the governor allegedly sent troops to Manila during the failed coup.

Aguiraldo has refused to vacate his post and filed a civil suit

challenging the suspension order. He also refused to comment on whether he helped mutinous soldiers in the coup attempt, which left at least 113 people dead and over 500 wounded.

Azuma said the Department of Justice has subpoenaed Aguiraldo to appear at a preliminary hearing on rebellion charges against him on Jan. 26 in Manila.

"This shows that the government, though not as fast as perhaps our instincts would want us to (move) ... is determined to throw the book at this recalcitrant local official," Azuma said.

He said the suspension order was an administrative measure while the rebellion charge filed by Santos with the Justice Department was a criminal case against Aguiraldo.

Under Philippine law, a preliminary investigation has to be undertaken by government prosecutors before formal charges are filed in court.

Mrs. King calls on Bush to help unify America

ATLANTA (AP) — Slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was remembered in church services nationwide on the eve of the Monday holiday, which would have been his 61st birthday.

His widow, Coretta Scott King, delivered her annual "State of the Dream" address Sunday at Ebenezer Baptist Church, the church where her husband was pastor, before about 1,000 people, including such civil rights leaders as the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Joseph Lowery.

Mrs. King reflected on the dramatic social changes of 1969 in other parts of the world and her husband's philosophy of civil disobedience.

The reporters, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the men had apparently been shot by vigilante squads in the continuing crackdown against the People's

Front, an ultranationalist Sinhalese guerrilla group.

Human rights organisations say the vigilantes operate with the tacit support of President Ranasinghe Premadasa's government and regularly kill civilians suspected of links with the front.

The government also blames the killings on vigilantes, but says they operate without government support.

Sinhalese militants have been trying since 1987 to overthrow the government, accusing it of making too many concessions to Sri Lanka's Tamil minority in trying to end a Tamil secession.

Mrs. King, noting that U.S. President George Bush is to deliver his State of the Union address in a few days, recalled a speech of President Ronald Reagan's government within sight of an old slave auction block.

He urged all workers to stand up against their bosses for a living wage and decent working conditions.

In New York City, Mayor David Dinkins, the first black to hold that office, told about 400 people at Judson Memorial Church about King's struggle for equality and the need to continue.

"Dr. King took us to the dawn of a new era," Dinkins said. "It is up to us to push on to the bright light of day."

"Dr. King dreamed of an inclusive society, where people would be judged by their good will and their good deeds," he said. "That is my dream for our city."

King, the son of an Atlanta baptist minister, led non-violent marches in the south in the 1950s and 1960s in a quest to end discrimination against blacks and other minorities. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

His teachings were honoured Sunday in Miami as about 100 to 150 Haitian exiles staged a peaceful demonstration for democracy in their Caribbean island nation. Demonstrators called for a halt in U.S. aid to Prosper Avril's government and that Avril, on a trade mission to Taiwan, be kept from returning home.

U.S. and cocaine countries prepare war on drug trade

SANTA CRUZ, Bolivia (Agencies) — The United States and South America's cocaine-producing countries Sunday drew up battle plans for a common war on the billion dollar drug trade involving increased military and U.S. funding.

A government statement said the four countries' presidents would adopt a "joint, integral and coordinated strategy against the serious problem of illegal drugs and their economic and social effects."

In a speech at the meeting's pre-dawn conclusion, Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde sketched out the agreement in general terms.

He said it recognised the three South American countries have pledged themselves to a full-fledged military campaign against the cocaine trade. In turn, the United States recognises these countries need more U.S. economic aid.

"We are very satisfied," Iturralde said. "We have prepared the way for a very successful summit." He declined to elaborate.

all-out war on the drug lords whose powerful cartels refine, transport and sell most of the cocaine to many residents of these developing countries.

Iturralde said the accord represented "an integral commitment by the four countries, which have proposed carrying out a frontal and unstoppable assault on narcotics trafficking."

Iturralde's address came at 4:30 a.m., after wrangling forced a lengthy final session. Delegates said the delay was prompted by arguments over how U.S. assistance should be directed and what conditions would be attached to it.

The United States insists that the flow of aid money depend on a country's dedication and performance in the anti-drug effort. The U.S. delegation chief, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Skol, told reporters at the meeting's end that he was happy with the agreement.

"We are very satisfied," Skol said. "We have prepared the way for a very successful summit." He declined to elaborate.

Column

Instinct to fight

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania (AP) — A robber who punched the manager of a small general store did not realise the 72-year-old man standing by the newspaper stand was a former light heavyweight champion. Former boxer Billy Conn jumped into the struggle and tried to break up the robbery, but the thief got away Wednesday with about \$30 from the store, police said. Conn and the robber ended up on the floor and the thief got away after dumping the newspaper rack on the boxer's legs, said Conn's wife, Mary Louise, who ran out of the store to summon help. "My instinct was to get help," she said. Conn declined to talk about the incident: As a boxer, he won 63-11 and fought one draw from 19